

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ J: HLEVIN: MJA

EXT 23152:4-11-73

APPROVED BY S/ S- MR. MILLER

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EA - MR. SNEIDER

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R 121651 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

S E C R E T STATE 068202

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS- L

TAGS: JA CH

SUBJECT: GOJ- PRC RELATIONS

1. AMBASSADOR USHIBA CALLED ON UNDER SECRETARY PORTER APRIL 10 TO READ GIST OF PRIME MINISTER TANAKA'S LETTER TO CHOU EN LAI DELIVERED APRIL 8 IN PEKING BY AMBASSADOR OGAWA. USHIBA SAID PURPOSE OF LETTER WAS TO STATE DETERMINATION AND CONFIDENCE OF GOJ TO FURTHER PROMOTE THE PROGRESS OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND JAPAN AGAINST BACKGROUND OF RECENT DEVELOPMENT OF BILATERAL RELATIONS AFTER THEIR NORMALIZATION LAST YEAR AND RECENT CHANGES IN THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION.

2. USHIBA SAID LETTER DOES NOT INDICATE ANY CONCRETE PROPOSALS AS TO HOW TO PROMOTE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP EXCEPT TANAKA'S INVITATION TO CHOU TO VISIT JAPAN WITHOUT SPECIFYING ANY DEFINITE TIME. TANAKA ALSO  
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INDICATED, AS AN IDEA FOR THE FUTURE, HIS INTEREST IN CONVENING MEETINGS OF PRINCIPAL CABINET MEMBERS OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS AT REGULAR INTERVALS IN ORDER EXCHANGE VIEWS AT HIGH LEVEL.

3. LETTER REFRAINS FROM ANY REFERENCES TO THIRD COUNTRIES AND CONSEQUENTLY CONTAINS NO MENTION OF US- JAPAN RELATIONSHIP. LETTER CONCLUDES THAT IN PROMOTING BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP, IT IS NECESSARY BOTH COUNTRIES SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT JAPAN AND CHINA ASSUME DIFFERENT POSITIONS RESPECTIVELY IN INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY.

4. WHEN PRESENTING LETTER, OGAWA REPEATED INVITATION THEREIN FOR CHOU TO VISIT JAPAN. CHOU RESPONDED THAT HE HAD LEFT JAPAN IN APRIL 1919 AND WOULD LIKE TO VISIT AGAIN. SINCE HE WAS NOW VERY BUSY HE WOULD FIRST SEND FONMIN CHI IN RESPONSE TO FONMIN OHIRA' S INVITATION CONTAINED IN LETTER TO CHI PRESENTED EARLIER BY OGAWA. CHOU SAID LEADERS OF TWO GOVERNMENTS SHOULD SEE MORE OF EACH OTHER TO EXCHANGE VIEWS. CHOU HOPED CHINA AND JAPAN WOULD SOON CONCLUDE CIVIL AIR, TRADE, AND FISHERIES AGREEMENTS WITH AIR AGREEMENT MOST NEEDED. CHOU ALSO FELT PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY SHOULD BE CONCLUDED BASED ON CHOU- TANAKA COMMUNIQUE. CHOU SAID THAT IF BOTH SIDES MAKE THEIR CIRCUMSTANCES CLEAR AND PEOPLE INVOLVED IN NEGOTIATIONS ARE DETERMINED, ALL PROBLEMS BETWEEN CHINA AND JAPAN CAN BE SOLVED.

5. OGAWA AGREED AND WENT ON TO STRESS THAT NOW THAT NORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED, DISCUSSION OF PROBLEMS SHOULD PROCEED THROUGH REGULAR DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. ( NOTE: THIS IS OBVIOUS NEGATIVE REFERENCE TO PRESENT VISIT TO JAPAN OF JAPAN- CHINA FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT LIAO CHENG- CHIH.) CHOU AGREED TO CONSIDER OGAWA' S REQUEST TO CALL ON CHAIRMAN MAO.

6. PORTER OBSERVED THAT OGAWA' S EXCHANGE WITH CHOU WAS A GOOD ONE. US ALSO FINDING CHINESE BUSINESSLIKE I; DISCUSSIONS. THEY ARE TOUGH NEGOTIATORS BUT  
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KEEP AGREEMENTS ONCE MADE.

7. IN RESPONSE USHIBA' S QUESTIONS, PORTER SAID CHINESE ADVANCE PARTY TO OPEN LIAISON OFFICE EXPECTED ARRIVE WASHINGTON QUITE SOON. US WILL DO WHAT WE CAN TO HELP CHINESE, RECIPROCATING COURTESIES OUR ADVANCE PARTY RECEIVING IN PEKING, THOUGH PRIVATE OWNERSHIP OF REAL ESTATE IN US CREATED DIFFERENT CONDITIONS FOR INITIAL SETTLING- IN PROCESS.

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WE HOPE MINIMAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR OFFICES AND LIVING QUARTERS MAY BE COMPLETED FOR OUR L. O. THIS MONTH SO AMBASSADOR BRUCE MAY PROCEED TO PEKING IN MAY. MAY 1 IS TARGET DATE, BUT OUR ADVANCE PARTY MAY NEED MORE TIME TO GET AMBASSADOR BRUCE' S QUARTERS IN SHAPE. WE WOULD NOT VIEW SOME SLIPPAGE OF THIS DATE AS A GRAVE PROBLEM.

8. PORTER SAID HE BELIEVED OUR PEKING STAFF HAD ALREADY BEEN IN TOUCH WITH JAPANESE EMBASSY. HE LOOKED FORWARD TO SAME INTIMATE WORKING RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND JAPANESE OFFICIALS IN PEKING WHICH HAS HERETOFORE CHARACTERIZED US- JAPAN COOPERATION IN REGARD TO CHINA. USHIBA ENTHUSIASTICALLY CONCURRED.

9. FYI. NOT SENT PEKING DUE TO LIMITED COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES.

ROGERS

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* EXDIS

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* SECRET

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